

Preamble. hundred and fifteen; and whereas, as a result of the application of this principle, as embodied in the General Board's preliminary report, the only town in the State of North Carolina, namely, Fayetteville, which was pressing its claims as a suitable location for said plant, is thus eliminated; and whereas it has been recently brought to our attention by circular-letters issued by said armor plate board, bearing dates of December twenty, one thousand nine hundred and sixteen, and January twelve, one thousand nine hundred and seventeen, that the policy of the Government in the making of armor will probably be that of the purchase in the open market of suitable pig iron, instead of the erection of furnaces and the smelting of ore; and whereas the said communications from said armor plant board indicate that Bessemer pig iron, with a phosphorus content of not exceeding .1 per cent will be demanded, to meet the requirements of the Government; with a manganese content of from 1.06 per cent to 1.16 per cent; with a copper content not to exceed .034 per cent; a sulphur content of from 0.25 per cent to .032 per cent; with a silicon content of from .6 per cent to .96 per cent; and whereas it has been reliably brought to our attention that no locality in the South, and probably no locality in the United States, excepting possibly those sections which draw on the Lake Superior ore beds for their raw material, can produce pig iron of the analysis required from the ores in their immediate locality (that is to say, without importing their ores and other raw material), excepting the locality in the immediate vicinity of the Watauga Valley, which is removed only twenty-three miles from the famous Cranberry ores, which for many years have been smelted at Johnson City, Tennessee, and which produce a very high grade of low phosphorus pig, of the following analysis:

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Phosphorus, not exceeding035 per cent.
Copper015 per cent.
Sulphur015 per cent to .032 per cent.
Silicon6 per cent.

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